

Serial No.: 10/631,215

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No.: NC 84,952

## REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-14 are pending in the application. Claim 2 has been cancelled by this amendment without prejudice. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 13, and 14 have been rejected. Claims 2, 3, 6, 8-10, and 12 have been objected to.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitation from cancelled claim 2 that the first laser and the second laser are copropagating or coaxial. Note that claim 2 originally recited copropagating and coaxial. This corrects the error in claim 2, as the specification states "or" at page 8, line 20.

No new matter has been added.

## Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102, 103

Claims 1, 13, and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Joyce (US 5,292,559) in view of Gnanamuthu (US 4,716,270).

As amended claim 1 is of the same scope as cancelled claim 2, save for correcting "and" to "or." In the office action of 03/09/2005, claim 2 was stated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Thus claim 1 is now allowable. Claims 13 and 14 depend from and contain all the limitations of claim 1 and are asserted to allowable on the same basis.

Claims 4, 5, 7, and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Joyce in view of Gnanamuthu and in further view of Hirano (US 6,099,626).

Claims 4, 5, 7, and 11 depend from and contain all the limitations of claim 1 and are asserted to allowable on the same basis as explained above.

Claims 1, 13, and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Opower (US 5,725,914).

As explained above, claim 1 is allowable as being claim 2 rewritten in independent form. Claims 13 and 14 depend from and contain all the limitations of claim 1 and are asserted to allowable on the same basis.

Claims 4, 5, 7, and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being allegedly

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unpatentable over Opower in view of Joyce and in further view of Hirano.

Claims 4, 5, 7, and 11 depend from and contain all the limitations of claim 1 and are asserted to allowable on the same basis as explained above.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

In the event that a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0281, and in the event that there is a credit due, please credit Deposit Account No. 50-0281.

Respectfully submitted,



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